

January 19 1945

Mrs. Querida Madre:

Good evening Miss Kate – Your son John – signing on for a brief chat – Am just back from some Boxing matches – one of our men – Alex Littman from San Angelo won his bout – The radio Harold gave us is playing tunefully. Smith is in bed reading a story of the Civil War campaigns & Lane and Ford are up at the orderly room writing – The night is refreshingly cool and I feel in a good mood.

Three sprightly good letters from you yesterday – Two in mails dated – Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> and an air mail dated Jan 9<sup>th</sup>. Did Harold tell you much about my travels – You mentioned not believe him when he said that I would be here until June. Mother, I think I shall scold you (smile). I have told you several times that I would be here for several more months - I think it will be June at least before we leave – I say June – it could be August Sept or even later. I ain't a wanting [illegible], but I would like very much to be stationed in Luzon – near Manilla – and also eventually China – China you know is just around the corner.

I would like to talk with you about the war "situation" right now – I had no idea the Russians were now driving toward Warsaw especially – you and I both erred on thinking the Rooseans, as grand father called them, were working. As for the Japs – the poor benighted fools – what in the Hell do you suppose they think about the Philippines, surely they must have something up their sleeves. Wouldn't it be wonderful if they would fold up

Dreamed of Philip again last night & said – "Damn it – I know that you are alive this time – so tell me about the crash"

Francis is a bit fumed because I didn't write as often as usual while in Australia – More and more mother were of the opinion that I would ask her to marry me. I may quite writing to all women.

The officer whom Walter met, and who knew me was stationed at Lae. Her name was Jagger

Well mother I wish this year would bring me a Captainly, but I doubt it. Wish Balling would go home on rotation soon after his 18 months so that I could take over the company. Could get a Captaincy within 3 months after assuming command providing our next higher [illegible] whenever it will be, would be amenable

Well mother dear – to bed I go so good night you best & kindest of persons.

Your loving son

John Harrod